

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 7-8 and 10-11 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Amendments

By way of this reply, claim 2 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of claim 11. Specifically, the limitation “wherein the control means counts the number of power source operations inputted during execution of the starting sequence” has been added to claim 2. Further, it has been clarified that “control means for starting execution of a starting sequence when a power source operation is inputted at a time of stopping the apparatus body and stopping the starting sequence to start execution of an ending sequence when the power source operation is inputted during starting execution of the starting sequence at least once.” Support for this amendment may be found in, for example, in paragraph [0030] and Figure 2 of the published application. Claim 3 has been amended to remove the limitation, “when the power source operations are inputted plural times during the starting sequence execution.” Also, claims 1, 6-8, and 10-12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Disposition of Claims

In view of the above, claims 2-4, 9, and 13 are now pending in this application, of which claim 2 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 2.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 103

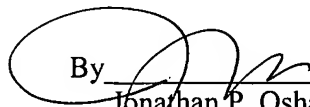
Claims 2-3, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over AAPA in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,331,353 ("Levenson"). Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 9, and 12 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over AAPA in view of Levenson and U.S. Published Application No.20020186325 ("Mear"). As discussed above, claims 1, 6-8, and 10-12 have been cancelled. Claim 2, as amended, is now believed to be in condition of allowance for at least the same reasons as claim 11 was allowed over the cited references. Claims 3, 4, 9, and 13, being dependent on claim 2, are also now allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04995/133001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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